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Fiftieth session
THIRD COMMITTEE
Agenda item 105

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Pakistan, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and Turkey: draft resolution

Follow-up to the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 45/133 of 14 December 1990, 46/92 of 16 December 1991 and 47/237 of 20 September 1993, concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the observance of the International Year of the Family, 1/

Bearing in mind the results of the International Conference on Population and Development, 2/ the World Summit for Social Development 3/ and the

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1/ A/50/370.

2/ A/CONF.171/13 and Add.1.

3/ A/CONF.166/9.

Fourth World Conference on Women, 4/ which note that the family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened, that it is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support, that in different cultural, political and social systems various forms of family exist and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of family members must be respected,

Noting the accomplishments resulting from the observance of the International Year of the Family, inter alia, the new initiatives and long-term activities in support of the family all over the world, in particular at the local and national levels, and the value of international cooperation on family issues,

1. Invites Governments to continue their action to build family-friendly societies, inter alia, by promoting the rights of individual family members, in particular gender equality and child protection and development;

2. Urges Governments to ratify and accede to and to ensure implementation on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 5/ so that universal ratification can be achieved by the year 2000 and to take urgent measures to achieve universal ratification of or accession to the Convention on the Rights of the Child 6/ by 1996, and urges those who have not yet done so to become party to the Convention in order to achieve universal implementation by the year 2000;

3. Welcomes the proposals, contained in the report of the Secretary-General, 1/ on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family;

4. Invites the Commission for Social Development to consider how best to integrate the follow-up to the International Year of the Family into its work programme as laid out in Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/60 of 28 July 1995, taking into account the integrated follow-up of major United Nations conferences, to form part of a holistic approach to development and social progress;

5. Requests the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit proposals to the Commission for Social Development assisting its work;

(b) To prepare a document containing the family-related provisions from the outcome of the World Summit for Children, 7/ the United Nations Conference

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4/ A/CONF.177/20.

5/ Resolution 34/180, annex.

6/ Resolution 44/25, annex.

7/ A/45/625, annex.

on Environment and Development, 8/ the World Conference on Human Rights, 9/ the International Conference on Population and Development, 2/ the World Summit for Social Development, 3/ the Fourth World Conference on Women, 4/ and the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), to be submitted to the Commission for Social Development at its 35th session;

(c) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the progress made on the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting;

(d) To continue the operation of the Voluntary Fund for the International Year of the Family, to be renamed the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities, to provide financial assistance for activities specific to the family and projects of direct benefit to it, with special focus on least developed and developing countries, giving particular attention to non-traditional resources;

6. Calls upon Governments, as well as organizations, individuals and the private sector, to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities.

8/ A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (vols. I and II).

9/ A/CONF.157/24.

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belarus, Brazil, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Fiji, France, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Thailand and Viet Nam: draft resolution

Progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review

Cooperation to achieve education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognized as inalienable the right of every individual to education,

Recalling also its resolutions 42/104 of 7 December 1987, by which it proclaimed 1990 as International Literacy Year, and 44/127 of 15 December 1989 and 46/93 of 16 December 1991, in which it called for continuing international efforts to promote literacy,

Recalling further its resolution 45/126 of 14 December 1990, in which it called for strengthening efforts towards the elimination of illiteracy of women of all ages,

Mindful of the fact that the eradication of illiteracy is one of the paramount objectives of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,

Convinced that literacy, especially functional literacy and adequate education, represents an indispensable element for the development and harnessing of science, technology and human resources for economic and social progress,

Confident that International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All, held at Jomtien, Thailand, in 1990, resulted in increased awareness and support for literacy efforts and became a turning-point in the struggle for a literate world,

Underlining the importance of maintaining the momentum generated by the Year and the spirit of partnership forged at the Jomtien Conference,

Welcoming the setting up of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All entrusted with the task of monitoring the progress towards education for all and promoting consultation and cooperation at the global level,

Recognizing that despite the significant advances registered in the growth of literacy rates in many parts of the world major problems still persist which require greater mobilization of efforts at both national and international levels to achieve the goal of education for all,

Stressing the importance of the effective implementation of the World Declaration on Education for All and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000 1/ as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, inter alia, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 2/ the Cairo Programme of Action on Population and Development, 3/ the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action for Social Development, 4/ the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action on the advancement of women 5/ and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of the Nine High-Population Countries, 6/

1/ See UNESCO, Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, vol. I, Resolutions, p. 71.

2/ See document A/45/625.

3/ A/CONF.171/13.

4/ See A/CONF.166/9.

5/ See A/CONF.177/20.

6/ A/CONF.166/PC.20/Add.13, annex II.

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made and problems encountered in the struggle against illiteracy: a mid-decade review; 7/

2. Notes with appreciation the close collaboration and commendable work being pursued as a follow-up to the International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme;

3. Commends those Governments which have launched national literacy programmes and attained notable progress in meeting the objectives of International Literacy Year and those set forth in the World Declaration on Education for All;

4. Invites Member States, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to further intensify their efforts to effectively implement the World Declaration on Education for all, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Plan of Action for the Eradication of Illiteracy by the Year 2000 1/ as well as the relevant commitments and recommendations to promote literacy contained, inter alia, in the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s, 2/ the Cairo Programme of Action on Population and Development, 3/ the Copenhagen Declaration and programme of Action on Social Development, 4/ the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action on the advancement of women, 5/ and the Delhi Declaration of the Education for All Summit of the Nine High-Population Countries, 6/ with a view to better coordinating their activities and increasing their contribution to development;

5. Appeals anew to Governments, economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve education for all;

6. Calls upon the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue assuming the role of lead organization in ensuring an effective follow-up to International Literacy Year and the World Conference on Education for All;

7. Notes with satisfaction the firm commitment and active involvement of many non-governmental organizations, the mass media and the private sector in support of and follow-up to International Literacy Year;

8. Requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, in 1997, through the Economic and Social Council, a progress report on the implementation process

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7/ A/50/181.

of the education for all objectives, including the recommendations of the International Consultative Forum on Education for All;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session the question of cooperation towards education for all under the item on social development.

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE WORLD SOCIAL SITUATION AND TO YOUTH, AGEING, DISABLED PERSONS AND THE FAMILY

Denmark, Morocco, Philippines and Zaire: draft resolution

Towards full integration of persons with disabilities in society: implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Recalling also its resolution 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which it adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 1/

Recalling further all its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 37/53 of 3 December 1982, 46/96 of 16 December 1991, 47/88 of 16 December 1992, 48/95 and 48/99 of 20 December 1993 and 49/153 of 23 December 1994,

Noting with interest the initiative by non-governmental organizations in Denmark taken to develop a disability index based on the United Nations Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Standard Rules and his recommendation that in the

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1/ A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation 1 (IV).

coming two years the focus should be mainly on legislation, coordination of work, organizations of persons with disabilities, accessibility, education and employment,

1. Urges all Governments and organizations to continue to strengthen their efforts to implement the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities by legal, administrative and all other appropriate measures;

2. Encourages Member States to make voluntary contributions to support the important work of the Special Rapporteur;

3. Calls upon Governments to implement the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons to the Year 2000 and Beyond by implementation of the Long-term Strategy;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure appropriate support for the effective functioning of the Long-term Strategy to Implement the World Programme of Action and distribute, inter alia, the Long-term Strategy to the Member States;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations Development Programme, in close cooperation with the Statistical Division of the Secretariat, to finalize the development of global indicators for the fulfilment of equal opportunities for persons with disabilities and the respect of their human rights.